

NEW MEXICO CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE
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 Cooperating with the New Mexico Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING APRIL 5, 2020

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Moisture was limited to a small area centered over western Colfax and Mora Counties, while warmer than normal temperatures remained present virtually Statewide, which when coupled with reports of high winds in some southern locations, resulted in comments that mentioned decreased soil moisture levels, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Reports from Rio Arriba and Taos Counties noted that producers were readying fields for planting. Additionally, comments indicated that the warm weather in the mountainous areas of the State has led to an increase in snow melt runoff that has produced a steady supply of water in the acequias. In Union County, reports mentioned that dryland wheat showed some signs of improvement, and was still being grazed. The United States Drought Monitor released on April 2 noted that the State remained free of exceptional and extreme drought (D3 and D4). Severe drought (D2) covered 11.4 percent of the State, unchanged from conditions in the previous report. The area classified in moderate drought (D1) – currently 14.8 percent – showed a very slight decrease from the previous report. Overall, conditions rated abnormally dry or worse were evident across 44.3 percent of the State, unchanged from conditions at the end of March. Drought-free conditions were present across 55.7 percent of the State. In addition to native pastures, corn, hay, sorghum, and wheat are the main crops produced in the drought-affected areas, which is most likely weighing heavily on producer’s minds as fieldwork ramps up for spring planting. Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 47 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 43 percent in the previous report, 43 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 31 percent. Pasture and range condition was reported as 20 percent good to excellent, compared with 42 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 32 percent. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 10 percent very short, 43 percent short, 46 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 14 percent very short, 40 percent short, 44 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus in the previous report. Stock water supplies were reported as 9 percent very short, 32 percent short, and 59 percent adequate, compared with 10 percent very short, 31 percent short, and 59 percent adequate in the previous report.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

| Commodity | Current week (percent) | Previous report (percent) | Previous year (percent) | 5-year average (percent) |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Chile | | | | |
| Planted..... | 22 | 2 | 27 | 39 |
| Cotton | | | | |
| Planted..... | 2 | NA | -- | 4 |
| Onions | | | | |
| Planted..... | 35 | 15 | 38 | 66 |
| Emerged | 21 | 5 | 11 | 33 |
| Cattle and calves | | | | |
| Cows calved | 39 | 30 | 49 | 42 |
| Receiving supplemental feed..... | 80 | 86 | 75 | 81 |
| Sheep and lambs | | | | |
| Ewes lambled | 36 | 30 | 37 | 33 |
| Receiving supplemental feed..... | 70 | 74 | 73 | 69 |

NA – not available
 (--) – zero

DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

| | Current week | Previous report | Previous year | 5-year average |
|----------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| Days suitable for fieldwork..... | 6.7 | NA | 6.9 | 6.4 |
| Topsoil moisture | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) |
| Very short..... | 27 | 23 | 9 | 18 |
| Short..... | 26 | 34 | 48 | 51 |
| Adequate..... | 46 | 42 | 42 | 31 |
| Surplus..... | 1 | 1 | 1 | -- |
| Subsoil moisture | | | | |
| Very short..... | 25 | 22 | 20 | 15 |
| Short..... | 31 | 37 | 40 | 40 |
| Adequate..... | 44 | 41 | 39 | 45 |
| Surplus..... | -- | -- | 1 | -- |

NA – not available

(--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

| Commodity | Current week | Previous report | Previous year | 5-year average |
|-------------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) |
| Alfalfa hay | | | | |
| Very poor..... | 2 | 1 | 1 | -- |
| Poor..... | 2 | 2 | 4 | 6 |
| Fair..... | 45 | 45 | 50 | 45 |
| Good..... | 47 | 47 | 42 | 38 |
| Excellent..... | 4 | 5 | 3 | 11 |
| Pasture and range | | | | |
| Very poor..... | 12 | NA | 5 | 7 |
| Poor..... | 12 | NA | 10 | 16 |
| Fair..... | 56 | NA | 43 | 45 |
| Good..... | 20 | NA | 40 | 28 |
| Excellent..... | -- | NA | 2 | 4 |
| Winter wheat | | | | |
| Very poor..... | 1 | 1 | -- | 4 |
| Poor..... | 1 | 3 | 30 | 26 |
| Fair..... | 50 | 53 | 25 | 33 |
| Good..... | 40 | 34 | 32 | 31 |
| Excellent..... | 8 | 9 | 13 | 6 |
| Cattle and calves | | | | |
| Very poor..... | 5 | 1 | 3 | 2 |
| Poor..... | 7 | 6 | 25 | 8 |
| Fair..... | 36 | 39 | 40 | 42 |
| Good..... | 42 | 49 | 22 | 43 |
| Excellent..... | 10 | 5 | 10 | 5 |
| Sheep and lambs | | | | |
| Very poor..... | 5 | -- | 1 | 12 |
| Poor..... | 12 | 11 | 11 | 15 |
| Fair..... | 36 | 39 | 58 | 29 |
| Good..... | 45 | 47 | 30 | 43 |
| Excellent..... | 2 | 3 | -- | 1 |

NA – not available

(--) – zero